

To: All registrants

Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland  
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**Our Ref:** RegCorr 1/13

Dear registrant,

### **Standards and Guidance for Pharmacist Prescribers 2013**

The Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland is pleased to launch the revised Standards and Guidance for Pharmacist Prescribers 2013.

It replaces the previous edition published in 2009 and follows a public consultation which closed on 18 December 2012.

#### **Pharmacist prescribers**

Pharmacists gained the right to achieve supplementary prescribing status in 2003 and independent prescribing status in 2006. Legislation allows registered pharmacist prescribers to prescribe any medicine, including controlled drugs, for any medical condition within their competence.

There are currently 136 independent pharmacist prescribers registered with the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland.

Extending prescribing responsibilities to pharmacists introduces opportunities to make better use of the skills and expertise of pharmacists, increases patient choice in accessing medicines, and contribute to the introduction of more flexible team working across the health service.

### **Standards and Guidance for Pharmacist Prescribers 2013**

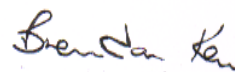
The revised Standards and Guidance 2013 provide more detailed information in relation to specific areas of practice such as, the new guidance on mixing medicines, guidance on transcribing and is also compliant with legislative changes in the UK and Northern Ireland. All pharmacists who prescribe privately must also follow the standards and guidance outlined in this document and should only prescribe within their sphere of competency.

The Standards and Guidance for Pharmacist Prescribers 2013 can be accessed on the Pharmaceutical Society NI website <http://www.psni.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Standards-and-Guidance-for-Pharmacist-Prescribing-April-2013.pdf>. Should you have any queries regarding the revised Standards and Guidance please contact Michelle McCorry at [michelle.mccorry@psni.org.uk](mailto:michelle.mccorry@psni.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,



Ms Jacqui Dougan  
President



Mr Brendan Kerr  
Registrar